

The Weather

Forecast
Cloudy today and tomorrow
becoming unsettled; little
change in temperature.

MEDFORD

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Thirty-Third Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1938.

No. 231.

MASTER SWINDLER FINANCED WARS

The Capital Parade

By Joseph Alsop
and
Robert Kintner

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North American News-
paper Alliance, Inc.

U. S. SEEN ANGRY
PASSIVE FOREIGN POLICY
CREDIT WEAPON AGAINST
DICTATOR NATIONS
CHINESE AMERICAN TRADE AID,
CHINESE LOAN CITED
ADMINISTRATION MOVES
AGGRESSION IN SEES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Two
events of almost incalculable significance
in American foreign policy have
occurred this week. The first was
Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr.'s mild disclosure of a
plan to use government funds to
finance South American trade. The
second was the arrangement of what
amounts to a handsome treasury
credit to the beleaguered Chinese.

True, the cautious Morgenthau
merely said that the South American
trade scheme was being "studied."
True, also, the highly involved form
of the Chinese credit all but obscures
the vital fact that it will bring desperately
needed supplies to the
tattered armies of Chiang Kai-shek.

Hitherto, following a traditionally
passive foreign policy, this country
has refused to use its credit weapon.
Now, the weapon has been daringly
granted by the president. If the
Chinese credit and the South American
trade scheme mean anything, they
mean that American wealth is to be
used to help existing friends and to
make new ones abroad. In the current
struggle between the democracies
and dictatorships, that is a fundamental
aggressive act.

Furthermore, it can be stated on
the most positive authority that the
aggressive nature of the Chinese
credit and South American trade
scheme was fully recognized in
discussions at the White House, the
state department and the treasury.
Indeed, the probable reactions of
Japan and Germany were pondered
at length. And it was finally decided
that, in the post-Munich world,
passivity is a luxury which the United
States cannot afford.

Thus far, the departure from traditional
policy is not great. If it
provokes a congressional uproar, the
Chinese credit can be explained away,
the South American scheme quietly
jettisoned. But the deeply serious
fact remains that the departure has
been made. It has been made
purposefully, after weighing every pro
and con, and, unless the domestic
reaction is so violent, it presages a new
American course in foreign affairs.

The history of this week's twin
events will show that the foregoing
analysis is neither alarmist nor exaggerated.
It begins some four years
ago, when certain far-sighted treasury
officials first suggested that it was
foolish to ignore the credit weapon in
the struggle between democracy and
dictatorship. The question became
controversial not long thereafter,
when the dictatorships' aggression,
made Secretary of the Treasury Henry
Morgenthau, Jr., an ardent champion
of the neglected weapon.

Use of the weapon was so long
delayed because the president was
fearful of the political results, while
the state department was reluctant
to abandon the principles of isolation.
Munich and its aftermath ended the
argument.

MUSICA EXPORTER
OF WAR MATERIAL
ON LARGE SCALE

Missing Assets May Be
Money Due for Munitions
— World-Wide Financial
Snarl Spawnd in Dry Era

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—(AP)—Investigation of the notorious Musira
brothers' biggest and most elaborate
swindle, involving millions of dollars
of McKesson and Robbins assets, extended
to all parts of the globe today
with emphasis on reports of
shipments of arms and ammunition to
foreign powers.

Gregory P. Noonan, acting U. S.
attorney, said he felt confident federal
authorities would develop "conclusive
proof" the head of the Musira
family—Philip Musira who called
himself P. Donald Coster and became
president of the \$87,000,000
drug corporation—was actually exporting
war materials on a large
scale.

Like Ivar Krueger, the Swedish
match king, and Serge Stavisky, the
French architect, Coster-Musira
—it became increasingly clear today—
was no piker. If he made the
beginnings of his fortune, as federal
authorities believe, in illicit alcohol
during prohibition, he quickly
shifted to bigger things.

Gun-running and even possibility
that the respected head of the great
drug corporation even financed the
3-year war between Bolivia and Paraguay
over the Gran Chaco border
were regarded tonight as likely activities
for Coster-Musica.

Noonan said an important conference
would be held Monday among
representatives of all federal law
enforcement agencies to draft a
definite plan of coordination for their
multiple activities in the future.

Gun-running, liquor shipments,
Coster-Musica's political connections,
his possible dealings in narcotics and
the vast financial tangle he left behind
when he sent a bullet into his
brain will be discussed.

So extensive were his labyrinthine
affairs that federal as well as state
investigators believed they had only
been to remove the numerous layers
of the scandal. More than 150 subpoenas
already have been issued by
Wall Street operators and brokers,
officials of the firm, Connecticut
politicians and numerous other ex-
plain the confusion of questions
raised by Coster's fantastic swindle.

The nature of the information
about gun-running, now in the
hands of Assistant Attorney General
Ambrose V. McCall, was not disclosed,
but he said he knew things "which
may involve living persons."

Giving support to this was a statement
of John Kantor, 66, of
Montreal, father of Mackinlay Kantor,
the author. The elder Kantor, held
here in connection with a Connecticut
stock case, appeared in the
police lineup today.

"McKesson and Robbins offered to
sell me some guns," he told setting
James Pyke who was questioning
him about reported gun smuggling
to other countries.

"I was asked not to discuss it,"
Kantor said.

When Hull Sounded New World Keynote For Parley



This historic picture shows Secretary of State Cordell Hull as he addressed the Pan-American
Congress, meeting at Lima, Peru. The keynote and speech was that adequate defense against foreign
military and political invasion, was the immediate and paramount problem of the new world. He also denounced
despotic forms of government.

LIMA, Dec. 17.—(AP)—Heads of
leading delegations to the Pan-
American conference failed tonight
to reach an agreement on a measure
for continental solidarity, the
Argentine representative refusing to
accede to the United States view-
point.

The meeting—the second today—
heard secretary of state Cordell Hull
pled for acceptance of the American
project, but adjourned without taking
action.

After the sessions, Atrahio Mello
Franco, chairman of the meeting
and its spokesman, said it still
would be possible for any delegation
to introduce its own resolution next
week although a midnight deadline
had been set. He expressed optimism
that the delegates would reach an
accord next week.

Mello Franco who is chairman of
the Brazilian delegation, said Dr.
Don Carlos Concha, Peruvian foreign
minister and president of the conference,
could constitute the rules in
such fashion.

Buenos Aires, Dec. 17.—(AP)—
Hundreds of boys of high school
and college ages have set themselves
the task of arousing Argentina's 12,000,000
people to "the perils of
Yankee imperialism."

They are backed by fascistic high-
ups and are trained in the gestures
of Reichsfuhrer Adolf Hitler of Germany
and Premier Benito Mussolini
of Italy.

Their placards on street corners
warn Argentina that President Roosevelt's
good neighbor policy is "a
farce" and "a blind" and, despite
police bans, they attempt to hold
meetings in the broad squares of
Buenos Aires.

The agitators against the United
States are banded together in the
"Nationalistic Youth Alliance,"
flagging of the "Argentine Civic
League."

The latter is a brown-shirt movement
founded by the late General
Jose Felix Uriburu, who ruled the
country as a military dictator from
1930 to 1932.

Its youthful offshoot is credited
by opponents with less than 500
to 600 members. It claims to
have but the youth alliance makes
considerable noise in Buenos Aires
and often is in conflict with other
youths who hold meetings of protest
against totalitarian regimes of Europe.

One of the downy posters the latter
is to tear down posters of the
"Yankee imperialists" as fast as they
are pasted up by the youth alliance.

ARGENTINE BALKS
SOLIDARITY PLAN
AT LIMA PARLEY

Youthful Agitators in Buenos
Aires Ape Hitler, Score
'Good Will' Move.

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Cupid On WPA

LEAKY GAS MAIN
IGNITES, PERILS
HOMES, 3 WORKERS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—(AP)—
President Roosevelt talked over the
congressional outlook with Vice President
Garner today in a conference
which led to speculation that the
chief executive would try to reunite
his party on the common ground of
national defense.

The more conservative Garner,
rudy and joke-cracking as ever,
returned to the capital ahead of most
members of congress, at the request
of "the boss."

He and the president lunched with
a committee drafting plans for a
building at Hyde Park, N. Y., where
the president's papers, books and
pictures are to be collected for historians.

Then they retired to the chief
executive's study in the residential
quarters of the White House, for a
long chat about many things.

Two hours later, preceded by two
butlers, Garner strode stately from
the White House. He motioned for
his waiting car, and then, when
reporters started asking questions,
pulled off his gray, cow-country hat.

"I'm perspiring," he remarked with
a grin. "It's awfully hot up there."
"Was that your talk about the vice
president?"

"I can't remember," the vice president
shook back.

Garner stepped quickly into his
car, remarking that he was "already
an hour late" for another appointment.

There were reports that Garner
conferred with Postmaster General
James A. Farley prior to his talk
with the president. Asked whether
such a conference had occurred,
Garner replied:

"Ask Jim."

Parley could not be reached immediately.

Garner and Parley generally have
been understood to entertain similar
political views. Both have been
represented widely as being cool,
generally speaking, toward the
president's efforts to "purge" anti-administration
Democrats from congress.
Both have been ardent advocates
of party solidarity.

White House attaches asserted that
Mr. Roosevelt gave Garner a comprehensive
outline of American foreign
policy, but there was no elaboration
on this statement. The fact
that it was the only subject mentioned
publicly led to speculation
that great emphasis would be placed
in the next congress on international
affairs.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—(AP)—
Representative Lamneck (D., Ohio),
recently defeated for reelection, said
tonight that the administration's
"inner circle" was planning to make
WPA Administrator Harry L. Hopkins
either secretary of war or navy.

Lamneck told a radio (CBS) audience
that Hopkins might be "slipped
into" the job of secretary of commerce
temporarily but that the
"inner circle hope to abolish the
department of commerce as soon"
because of its "encouragement of
business" and "wholly repugnant to
the radicals."

PREPAREDNESS TO
BE USED BY F. D. R.
TO UNITE PARTY

Chat With Garner Stresses
Foreign Policy — Texan
Silent On Conference.

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TAMPA WOMAN, 93
DIES IN SQUALOR;
LEAVES FORTUNE

Source of Wealth Mystery
—Parrot Only Companion
—Court Battle Looms.

TAMPA, Fla., Dec. 17.—(AP)—
Yesterday, death ended 93 years of
squalor for Mrs. Letitia V. Graham.
Today, Tampa learned she left a
\$350,000 fortune—a source a mystery
to the few who knew the 93-year old
recluse.

Mrs. Graham died in a four-room
shack on Tampa's outskirts and her
passing drew little notice in the press
among neighbors, one of whom
said, "She dressed like a charwoman
and lived like a share-cropper."

Today, her attorney, M. G. Gibbons,
said an inventory disclosed she
had \$46,000 in cash; \$184,000 in postal
savings; enough gilt-edged securities
to total a conservative \$350,000.

Gibbons said even he knew little
of her life, nothing at all of how
she gained her riches. She was born,
he said, on an Ante Bellum plantation
near Coldwater, in northern
Mississippi.

Half a century ago she came to
Tampa with her husband. Soon, he
died and since then she seemed to
take little interest in life. Living
alone with a parrot for a companion,
in the squalid house.

A few months ago some Tampa
cousins—whom she almost never
saw—persuaded a court to remove
her guardian. Only then did the shack get a bathroom
and running water. An old army cot
and blankets were thrown out and
a bed, mattress and sheets substituted.

Gibbons said Mrs. Graham told a
will but he would not disclose its
terms. Attorneys predicted a court
battle for her unsuspected wealth.
She was known to have had seven
cousins in Georgia and Florida but
not closer kin.

CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—(AP)—The
Rev. William J. Plunkett, who attended
the beatification rites for
Mother Sabina in Rome last month,
said today, George Cardinal Mundelein,
archbishop of Chicago, "may
very possibly be" the next pope.

The venerable cardinal is an important
figure both here and abroad.
Father Plunkett said in an interview.
"There is an especially high feeling
in Italy that he should be the successor
to Pope Pius XI."

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BOASTFUL DRIVER
MOST DANGEROUS
DRY LEAGUE TOLD

Nations Suspicious As Power
Politics Get Underway—
Hitler Silent On Plans.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—(AP)—Europe's
dangerous mood of suspicion is
becoming a noisy forum of
suspicious anticipation for the January
tests of the Munich peace.

The men who hold the cards face
the week ahead in this way:
Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain—

The British leader on Monday will
take part in the last foreign affairs
debate in the house of commons before
he tries again to make headway
with his European appeasement
program in his January 11-14 visit
to Premier Benito Mussolini in Rome.

Laborites want an outright vote
of censure for the prime minister's
whole foreign policy—but Chamberlain
has the votes.

Premier Edouard Daladier of France—

France's strong-man premier rested
wearily on the declaration of his
foreign minister, Georges Bonnet, to
legislators that "France will never
cede one inch of her territory."

Another speaker was Chief Justice
Harry H. Borler of the Evanston, Ill.,
municipal court, chairman of the
committee on tests for intoxication
of the national safety council.

Judge Porter, who emphasized that
he was speaking only as an individual
and not as a member of the
council committee, predicted that
complete figures of a survey would
show 69 per cent of traffic fatalities
and injuries traceable to "the use
of alcohol at the wrong time and
place."

He asserted that the really dangerous
driver was not the "horizontal
drunk," but the type who insists
he is "a better driver when he
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OHIOAN PREDICTS
SPENDING SPREE
AND WAR ALARMS

NATIONAL DEBT
TOPS 39 BILLIONS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—(AP)—
The nation's gross public debt jumped
\$774,226,572.25 today to a new
record high of \$39,403,330,479.50.

Treasury officials explained that
the sharp upswing in the debt over
the short unspoken yesterday
reflected the recent treasury financing
operation, effective December 15.

Specifically, the increase was attributed
to the treasury's issuance of
\$740,000,000 new securities for cash.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—(AP)—
Representative Lamneck (D., Ohio),
recently defeated for reelection, said
tonight that the administration's
"inner circle" was planning to make
WPA Administrator Harry L. Hopkins
either secretary of war or navy.

Lamneck told a radio (CBS) audience
that Hopkins might be "slipped
into" the job of secretary of commerce
temporarily but that the
"inner circle hope to abolish the
department of commerce as soon"
because of its "encouragement of
business" and "wholly repugnant to
the radicals."

The Ohio congressman said that
in either the war or navy department
the "fair-haired political adviser of
the inner circle would be able to
continue in the pleasant pastime of
spending more millions and, at the
same time, popularize himself to such
an extent that he might be the radical
candidate for president in 1940."

There has been much speculation
in the capital as to the likelihood
of Hopkins being named to replace
Daniel C. Roper as secretary of commerce.
Roper has resigned.

"A great war scare also is in the
making," Lamneck declared. "The
radical inner circle is planning to
whip the country into a state of
feverish excitement and patriotic
fervor over the preparedness issue.
Having failed to solve the unemployment
problem or restore prosperity,
it realizes that it is in desperate
straits for a popular issue to divert
attention from its failures."

He predicted also an attempt to
lift the limit of \$45,000,000,000 on
the public debt.

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SPANISH REBELS
FROWN ON PEACE